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Dallas Theater Center Announces 2024-2025 Season

Featuring Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors, Shane, Primary Trust, Waitress and Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

DALLAS (April 5, 2024) - Dallas Theater Center announces titles for the 2024-2025 season, including Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors, a fang-tastic comedy full of clever wordplay and quick-change antics; Shane, the Wild West story of heroism and family; Primary Trust, a story of friendship, healing and small chances; Waitress, serving satisfaction, one slice at a time; and Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, a reimagined biblical story for audiences of all ages. A Christmas Carol will return and dazzle as a holiday add-on. Productions will take place at the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre at the AT&T Performing Arts Center, the Kalita Humphreys Theater and at Bryant Hall in the Kalita Humphrevs Theater. Current subscribers can purchase their subscriptions now at DallasTheaterCenter.org and by phone at 214-522-8499. New subscribers will be able to purchase packages beginning in May.

"Our 2024-2025 season will surprise and delight North Texas audiences all season long," said Executive Director Kevin Moriarty. "Filled with musicals, comedies and heart-warming dramas, this is a season with something for everyone. In our increasingly isolated world, theater provides a rare opportunity for people of all backgrounds and experiences to come together in person to experience the variety and depth of the human experience, often surprising us with how much we have in common as fellow travelers through the journey of life. I'm eager to welcome everyone in Dallas to join us throughout the season to be surprised and moved by the many shared emotions that live theater can inspire."

The full season will be presented as follows: in the Kalita Humphreys Theater, *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors* (Oct. 11 - Nov. 3, 2024); in the Kalita Humphreys Theater, *Shane* (Jan. 31 - Feb. 23, 2025); in Bryant Hall at the Kalita Humphreys Theater, *Primary Trust* (Feb. 27 - March 16, 2025); in the Potter Rose Performance Hall at the Wyly Theatre, *Waitress* (March 29 - April 27, 2025); and in the Potter Rose Performance Hall at the Wyly Theatre, *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (June 13 - July 20, 2025). *A Christmas Carol* (Nov. 29 - Dec. 28, 2024) in the Potter Rose Performance Hall is not included in season tickets, but will be available as a holiday add-on. All dates, titles and venues are subject to change.

Also beginning in the 2024-2025 season, Dallas Theater Center is thrilled to announce and welcome Esteban Vilchez as the newest member of the Diane and Hal Brierley Resident Acting Company. Returning this upcoming season in prominent roles, both onstage and off, are fellow Brierley Resident Acting Company members Tiana Kaye Blair, Blake Hackler, Bob Hess, Christina Austin Lopez, Liz Mikel, Alex Organ, Molly Searcy, Tiffany Solano, Sally Nystuen Vahle and Zachary J. Willis.

"With our new season, DTC will be expanding our Diane and Hal Brierley Resident Acting Company," explained Moriarty. "We are thrilled that Esteban Vilchez is joining our company. Audiences have seen Esteban in previous productions at DTC, including *A Christmas Carol, Native Gardens* and *Into the Woods*, and in leading roles at many theaters throughout North Texas. His acting and singing skills, as well as his creativity and collaboration, will enrich DTC's artistry for years to come."

"Hal and I are delighted to see Esteban join the Brierley Resident Acting Company, having enjoyed his previous work onstage at DTC, "said Diane Brierley. "Since the launch of the acting company, we have been proud to support DTC's commitment to resident artists, which has raised the artistry of the theater and contributed to DTC's local impact and national acclaim."

In 2009, with the generous support of Diane and Hal Brierley, Moriarty reinstated Dallas Theater Center's resident acting company. His intent was to develop and nurture professional actors within the North Texas community and enable them to make Dallas their artistic home. At the same time, he sought to enhance Dallas Theater Center's artistic profile and create ongoing collaborative relationships. The Diane and Hal Brierley Resident Acting Company has since become a signature component of Dallas Theater Center's presence in the Dallas Arts District.

Written by Gordon Greenberg and Steve Rosen, *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors* is a fang-tastic comedy filled with anything-goes pop culture references. When you take Bram Stoker's legendary story and put it in a blender with Mel Brooks, Monty Python and The 39 Steps you'll get a contemporary, fast-paced and irreverent production that will have audiences of all ages (and blood types) screaming with laughter. When her sister Mina falls ill with a mysterious disease of the blood, Lucy Westfeldt and her fiancé, Jonathan Harker, enlist the help of famed vampire hunter Doctor Jean Van Helsing. Their hunt for the elusive and seductive Count Dracula abounds with clever wordplay and quick-change antics. Featuring Brierley Resident Acting Company members Blake Hackler as director, Tiffany Solano as assistant director and Sally Nystuen Vahle, Bob Hess, Molly Searcy and Esteban Vilchez in the cast.

One of the greatest Westerns of all time finds new life on the stage in *Shane*, based on the classic novel by Jack Schaefer. Acclaimed playwright Karen Zacarías brings an exciting, fresh perspective to an extraordinary American genre that follows Shane, a mysterious ex-gunfighter and a man with a dangerous past. Yet, the Starrett family finds kinship with him and Shane helps protect their Wyoming farm. Their story sheds new light on the allure, mythos and values of the Wild West — a chapter in history that still has many tales to tell. Featuring Brierley Resident Acting Company members Bob Hess, Sally Nysteun Vahle, Liz Mikel, Christina Austin Lopez, Zachary J. Willis and Esteban Vilchez in the cast.

The Dallas premiere of *Primary Trust,* in association with Stage West, is a touching story of new beginnings, old friends and finding the courage to see the world for the first time. The award-winning drama has been hailed by New York theater critics as one of the best plays of the year and follows the story of Kenneth, who lives in a small town in upstate New York. For 15 years his life has been the same: by day, he works at a bookstore, in the evening, he drinks mai tais with his friend Bert. When the bookstore shuts down, Kenneth is forced out of his comfort zone to face a world he has long avoided — with transformative and heart-warming results. Featuring Brierley Resident Acting Company member Tiana Kaye Blair in the cast.

Serving satisfaction, one slice at a time is *Waitress*, produced in collaboration with Lyric Theatre in Oklahoma City, and featuring music and lyrics by Grammy Award winner Sara Bareilles. In the beloved musical, Jenna, a waitress and expert pie maker, is stuck in a small town and a loveless marriage. Faced with an unexpected pregnancy, Jenna fears she may have to abandon the dream of opening her own pie shop...until a baking contest in a nearby county and the town's handsome new doctor offer her a tempting recipe for happiness. *Waitress* is an uplifting and inspiring musical celebrating friendship, motherhood and the magic of a well-made pie. Featuring Brierley Resident Acting Company members Tiffany Solano, Liz Mikel, Bob Hess, Christina Austin Lopez, Zachary J. Willis and Esteban Vilchez in the cast.

In *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,* audiences will delight in a reimagined Biblical story for all ages. The classic Broadway musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, based on the Bible's Book of Genesis, tells the journey of Joseph, son of Jacob, his twelve brothers and his coat of

many colors. Filled with catchy songs and dances, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* is one of the most enduring shows of all time. Featuring Brierley Resident Acting Company members Tiffany Solano, Liz Mikel, Blake Hackler, Christina Austin Lopez, Bob Hess, Zachary J. Willis and Esteban Vilchez in the cast.

As a holiday add-on, *A Christmas Carol* returns to the Wyly Theatre in a delightfully reimagined take of Charles Dickens' enduring classic. Written by Dickens and adapted by Moriarty, three spirits have come to visit the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge and take him on a fantastic journey through Christmases past, present and future that annually delights audiences across North Texas. Brimming with joyful songs, magical spirits and holiday cheer, Dallas Theater Center's *A Christmas Carol* is a family favorite that embodies the spirit of Christmas. Featuring Brierley Resident Acting Company members Alex Organ as director, Christina Austin Lopez as associate choreographer and Bob Hess, Sally Nystuen Vahle, Liz Mikel, Christina Austin Lopez, Zachary J. Willis and Esteban Vilchez in the cast.

Dallas Theater Center's season tickets include *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors, Shane, Primary Trust, Waitress* and *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.* Prices start at \$200 with subscription benefits including priority seating, priority access to single tickets with a 20% discount, free exchanges and discounted parking. To reserve the best seats at the best prices, subscriptions can be purchased online at DallasTheaterCenter.org or by calling the Dallas Theater Center Box Office at 214-522-8499.

Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. <u>www.concordtheatricals.com</u>. **Primary Trust** is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. <u>www.concordtheatricals.com</u>. **Waitress** is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. <u>www.mtishows.com</u>. **Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of The Really Useful Group. <u>www.concordtheatricals.com</u>

ABOUT DALLAS THEATER CENTER:

One of the leading regional theaters in the country and the 2017 Regional Theatre Tony Award® Recipient, Dallas Theater Center (DTC) performs to an audience of more than 100,000 North Texas residents annually. Founded in 1959, DTC is now a resident company of the AT&T Performing Arts Center and presents its Mainstage season at the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre, designed by REX/OMA, Joshua Prince-Ramus and Rem Koolhaas and at its original home, the Kalita Humphreys Theater, the only freestanding theater designed and built by Frank Lloyd Wright. Dallas Theater Center is one of only two theaters in Texas that is a member of the League of Resident Theatres, the largest and most prestigious non-profit professional theater association in the country. Under the leadership of Executive Director Kevin Moriarty, Dallas Theater Center produces a year-round subscription series of classics, musicals, and new plays and an annual production of A Christmas Carol; extensive education programs, including the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award-winning Project Discovery and many community collaborations. In 2017, in collaboration with Ignite/Arts Dallas at SMU Meadows School of the Arts and the AT&T Performing Arts Center, DTC launched Public Works Dallas, a groundbreaking community engagement and participatory theater project designed to deliberately blur the line between professional artists and community members, culminating in an annual production featuring more than 200 Dallas citizens performing a large-scale theatrical production. Throughout its history, Dallas Theater Center has produced many new works, including The Texas Trilogy by Preston Jones in 1978; Robert Penn Warren's All the King's Men, adapted by Adrian Hall, in 1986; and recent premieres of Miller, Mississippi by Boo Killebrew; Stagger Lee by Will Power; Hood: The Robin Hood Musical Adventure by Douglas Carter Beane and Lewis Flinn; Bella: An American Tall Tale by Kirsten Childs; penny candy by Jonathan Norton; Clarkston by Samuel D. Hunter and Moonshine: That Hee

Haw Musical by Robert Horn, Brandy Clark and Shane McAnally. Dallas Theater Center gratefully acknowledges the support of our season sponsors: Texas Instruments and Texas Instruments Foundation, The Shubert Foundation, City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture, Lexus, NBC 5, Dallas Tourism Public Improvement District (DTPID), and National Endowment of the Arts. Commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: At Dallas Theater Center, all are welcome. We want to be the best place to work and see theater, and to be a positive and transformational force in Dallas and beyond. We stand-up for equity, diversity, and inclusion across our company and community. As a leading national theater, we recognize that building an equitable, diverse, and inclusive environment is central to our relevance and sustainability in the community we serve and love.

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